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**IN THE CLAIMS:**

- 1 1-3. (Canceled)
- 1 4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein receiving the query includes receiving a HTTP message.
- 1 5. (Canceled)
- 1 6. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and second customized queries includes:
  - 3 based on the query, determining at least one of: at least one query context, at least one query keyword, and at least one query synonym, and,
  - 5 generating first and second customized queries based on at least one of: the determined at least one query context, the determined at least one query keyword, and the determined at least one query synonym.
- 1 7. (Canceled)
- 1 8. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and second customized queries includes:
  - 3 surveying the first and second data sources to determine at least one of: at least one relationship between at least two rows in at least one of the first and second data sources and ~~or~~ at least one relationship between at least two columns in at least one of the first and second data sources, and
  - 7 based on the query and the determined at least one relationship, generating first and second customized queries.
- 1 9-13. (Canceled)

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- 1    14. (Currently Amended): A method for searching first and second data sources having  
2    first and second data formats, the method comprising:  
3         receiving a natural-language query that elicits information from data sources,  
4         based on the query and the respective first and second data formats, generating first  
5         and second customized queries, and  
6         applying the first and second customized queries to the respective first and second  
7         data sources,  
8         receiving from the first and second data sources customized query results that  
9         indicate whether those data sources contain the elicited information, and  
10        providing a common result package indicative of the information that the customized  
11        query results contain.
- 1    15. (Canceled)
- 1    16. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 79, wherein the text data source  
2    stores at least one of: at least one text document, at least one text file, and at least one file  
3    including program instructions.
- 1    17. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein receiving the query  
2    includes receiving at least one of at least one natural language query and at least one  
3    keyword.
- 1    18. (Original) A method according to claim 14, wherein receiving the query includes  
2    receiving the query via a network.  
3
- 4    19. (Original) A method according to claim 14, wherein receiving the query includes  
5    receiving at least one relational operator.

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- 1       20. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes:  
3                 surveying the first and second data sources to identify information including at least  
4                 one of: information associated with at least one column in at least one of the  
5                 first and second data sources, information associated with at least one row in  
6                 at least one of the first and second data sources, and information associated  
7                 with at least one data element in at least one of the first and second data  
8                 sources, and  
9                 based on the query and the respective identified information, generating first and  
10                second customized queries.
- 1       21. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the query is a natural  
2 language query and generating first and second customized queries includes translating the  
3 query from a first language to at least one distinct second language.
- 1       22. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the query is a natural  
2 language query and generating first and second customized queries includes processing the  
3 query using a natural language processor.
- 1       23. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes performing a spell check.
- 1       24. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes performing a context evaluation of the query.
- 1       25. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes determining the first and second data formats of the  
3 respective first and second data sources.

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- 1 26. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes identifying at least one abbreviation in the query.
- 1 27. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes identifying at least one of: at least one abbreviation in  
3 the first data source and at least one abbreviation the second data source.
- 1 28. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes identifying at least one of: at least one column header,  
3 at least one row header, and at least one textual term in at least one of: the first data source  
4 and the second data source.
- 1 29. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes identifying at least one word variation in at least one of  
3 the first and second data sources.
- 1 30. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes identifying at least one phrase variation in at least one  
3 of the first and second data sources.
- 1 31. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes identifying at least one code based on at least one of:  
3 the first data source and the second data source.
- 1 32. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes generating at least one phonetic equivalent.
- 1 33. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized queries includes identifying a Frequently Asked Question (FAQ).

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- 1    34. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, further including generating a  
2    log file that includes at least one of the query, the first customized query, the second  
3    customized query, first search results based on the first customized query, second search  
4    results based on the second customized query, and a time of query.
  
- 1    35. (Original) A method according to claim 14, further comprising associating at least one  
2    of at least one identity and at least one privilege with the query.
  
- 1    36. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, further comprising performing  
2    at least one filtering of search results based on at least one of: the first and second  
3    customized queries.
  
- 1    37. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 80, wherein communicating the  
2    first and second search results to a client includes generating a SGML document.
  
- 1    38. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein communicating the  
2    first and second search results to a client includes generating at least one of a graph, a pie  
3    chart, a spreadsheet, and a histogram based on the first and second search results.
  
- 1    39. (Canceled)
  
- 1    40. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein communicating the  
2    first and second search results to a client includes generating at least one of: an email, an  
3    instant-message, and a voice message.
  
- 1    41. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein applying the first and  
2    second customized queries to the respective first and second data sources includes  
3    transferring the query to at least one of: a search engine in communication with the  
4    respective first and second data sources and a dictionary in communication with the

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- 5     respective first and second data sources, the dictionary being configured to generate the  
6     respective first and second customized queries.
- 1     42. (Canceled)
- 1     43. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein applying the first and  
2     second customized queries includes applying at least one of a SQL query and a search-  
3     engine search expression.
- 1     44. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein applying the first and  
2     second customized queries to the respective first and second data sources includes  
3     conditioning the application of the first and second customized queries based on at least one  
4     of an identity and a profile associated with the query.
- 1     45. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein applying the first and  
2     second customized queries includes conditioning the application of the first and second  
3     customized queries based on at least one privilege rule associated with at least one of the  
4     respective first and second data sources.
- 1     46-48. (Canceled)
- 1     49. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 55, wherein the query includes at  
2     least one of: at least one natural language query and at least one keyword.
- 1     50-54. (Canceled)
- 1     55. (Currently amended) A device for searching first and second data sources having  
2     respective first and second data formats, the device comprising:  
3         at least one microprocessor-controlled device configured to:  
4             receive a natural-language query that elicits information from data sources,

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5           based on the query and the respective first and second data formats, generate  
6           first and second customized queries, and  
7           apply the first and second customized queries to the respective first and  
8           second data sources,  
9           receive from the first and second data sources customized query results that  
10          indicate whether those data sources contain the elicited information, and  
11          provide a common result package indicative of the information that the  
12          customized query results contain.

1       56. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 55, wherein the first and second  
2       data sources includes at least one of: a text data source, a SGML data source, an HTML  
3       data source, an XML data source, and a SQL data source.

1       57. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 55, wherein the at least one  
2       microprocessor-controlled device is configured to:

3           survey the first and second data sources to identify information including at least  
4           one of: information associated with at least one column in at least one of the first and second  
5           data sources, information associated with at least one row in at least one of the first and  
6           second data sources, and information associated with at least one data element in at least one  
7           of the first and second data sources, and

8           based on the query and the respective identified information, generate first and  
9           second customized queries.

1       58-64. (Canceled)

1       65. (Currently amended) A computer product for searching first and second data sources  
2       having first and second data formats, the computer product disposed on a computer readable  
3       medium and comprising instructions for causing a processor to:  
4           receive a natural-language query that elicits information from data sources,

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5 based on the query and the respective first and second data formats, generate first  
6 and second customized queries, and  
7 apply the first and second customized queries to the respective first and second data  
8 sources,  
9 receive from the first and second data sources customized query results that indicate  
10 whether those data sources contain the elicited information, and  
11 provide a common results package indicative of the information that the customized  
12 query results contain.

1 66. (Previously presented) A computer product according to claim 65, wherein the query  
2 includes at least one of: at least one natural language query and at least one keyword.

1 67. (Previously presented) A computer product according to claim 65, wherein the  
2 instructions to receive the query include instructions to receive the query via a network.

1 68. (Previously presented) A computer product according to claim 65, wherein the  
2 instructions to receive the query include instructions to receive a HTTP message.

1 69-70. (Canceled)

1 71. (Previously presented) A computer product according to claim 65, wherein the  
2 instructions to generate first and second customized queries include instructions to:  
3 survey the first and second data sources to identify information including at least  
4 one of: information associated with at least one column in at least one of the first and second  
5 data sources, information associated with at least one row in at least one of the first and  
6 second data sources, and information associated with at least one data element in at least one  
7 of the first and second data sources, and  
8 based on the query and the respective identified information, generate first and  
9 second customized queries.

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1 72-77. (Canceled)

1 78. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein generating first and  
2 second customized  
3 queries includes generating first and second customized queries based on whether the  
4 respective  
5 first and second data sources store data relevant to the query.

1 79. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the first and second  
2 data sources include one or more of: a text data source, a SGML data source, an HTML  
3 data source, an XML data source, and a SQL data source.

1 80. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14, further comprising:  
2 receiving first and second search results from the respective first and second data  
3 sources, and  
4 communicating the first and second search results to a client.

1 81. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 80, wherein communicating the  
2 first and second search results to a client includes:  
3 converting the first and second search results to a single data format, and  
4 communicating the converted first and second search results to the client.

1 82. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 55, wherein the at least one  
2 microprocessor-controlled device is configured to:  
3 generate first and second customized queries based on whether the respective first  
4 and second data sources store data relevant to the query.

1 83. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 55, wherein the at least one  
2 microprocessor-controlled device is configured to:

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3 transfer the query to at least one of: a search engine in communication with the  
4 respective first and second data sources and a dictionary in communication with the  
5 respective first and second data sources, the dictionary being configured to generate the  
6 respective first and second customized queries.

1 84. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 55, wherein the at least one  
2 microprocessor-controlled device is configured to:

3 apply at least one of: a SQL query and a search-engine search expression.

1 85. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 55, wherein the at least one  
2 microprocessor-controlled device is configured to:

3 receive first and second search results from the respective first and second data  
4 sources, and

5 communicate the first and second search results to a client.

1 86. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 55, wherein the at least one  
2 microprocessor-controlled device is configured to:

3 convert the first and second search results to a single data format, and  
4 communicate the converted first and second search results to the client.

1 87. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 86, wherein the single data format  
2 includes an SGML format.

1 88. (Previously presented) A computer product according to claim 65, wherein the instruc-  
2 tions to generate first and second customized queries include instructions to:

3 generate first and second customized queries based on whether the respective first  
4 and second data sources store data relevant to the query.

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1        89. (Previously presented) A computer product according to claim 65, wherein the first and  
2        second data sources include one or more of: a text data source, a SGML data source, an  
3        HTML data source, an XML data source, and a SQL data source.

1        90. (Previously presented) A computer product according to claim 65, wherein the  
2        instructions to apply the first and second customized queries to the respective first and  
3        second data sources include instructions to:

4              transfer the query to at least one of: a search engine in communication with the  
5        respective first and second data sources and a dictionary in communication with the  
6        respective first and second data sources, the dictionary being configured to generate the  
7        respective first and second customized queries.

1        91. (Previously presented) A computer product according to claim 65, wherein the  
2        instructions to apply the first and second customized queries to the respective first and  
3        second data sources include instructions to:

4              apply at least one of: a SQL query and a search-engine search expression.

1        92. (Previously presented) A computer product according to claim 65, further comprising  
2        instructions to:

3              receive first and second search results from the respective first and second data  
4        sources, and  
5              communicate the first and second search results to a client.

1        93. (Previously presented) A computer product according to claim 65, further comprising  
2        instructions to:

3              convert the first and second search results to a single data format, and  
4              communicate the converted first and second search results to the client.